



**CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**  
**MINUTES**  
**ACCESS AWARENESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, May 11, 2011**  
**4:00 P.M.**  
**Wurtele Room, Municipal Hall**

**PRESENT:** Eleanor Calder, Chair  
Sherry Contreras, Vice Chair (Arrived 4:34 p.m.)  
Councillor Don Linge (Arrived 4:16 p.m.)  
Paul Newcombe  
Heidi Bada (Arrived 4:08 p.m.)  
Bob McKie – Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Representative

**STAFF:** Andy Katschor – Parks Manager (Staff Liaison)  
Jeff Miller – Director of Engineering & Public Works (Staff Liaison)  
Deborah Liske – Recording Secretary

**REGRETS:** Councillor Randall Garrison  
Emmy Labonté  
Peter Ryan

---

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

As we did not have quorum, the meeting proceeded with the presentation from the Community Living British Columbia.

**2. PRESENTATION**

(1) Veronica Berlando, Sandra Robertson and Caitlyn Sassaman, Community Living BC

The representatives of Community Living BC provided brief introductions and outlined their roles and services provided by the organization.

Community Living BC is a provincial crown agency that delivers supports and services to adults with developmental disabilities and their families. Supports and services include:

- Building communities where adults with developmental disabilities can feel safe and welcome. This can include:
  - Having a good job, a comfortable and safe place to live and the opportunity to make friends in the community.
- Providing financial assistance for required services for adults with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Facilitators who provide information, advice and assistance to those looking for services and supports in the community to :
  - Learn new skills to help achieve goals
  - Be active in the community through work or other activities
  - Live in the community
  - Connect with special supports and services
  - Make friends and be part of life in the community.
- Sharing information about the needs of people with developmental disabilities and promotes programs to encourage integration in the community

A video was played for committee members that further outlined the benefits of inclusion in the community for adults with developmental disabilities. At the conclusion of the video, the representatives from Community Living BC responded to questions from the committee. Key points included:

- Advocates are in place to assist in working with organizations to place individuals in unionized workplaces. In these situations the advocate will work closely with the union, management and the individual to develop a situation that will work.
- Customized employment is an option for individuals with developmental disabilities.
  - Goal of customized employment is to match the individual and their skills to the right job and location.
- Programs are available to assist with subsidizing employment wages.
- Agencies under contract with CLBC provide opportunities for supported living, home-sharing opportunities, group homes and cluster living (individual apartments with an onsite support worker to check on residents).
- Self-advocates (individuals with developmental disabilities that provide insight into the challenges faced by those with developmental disabilities) have a south island community council that meets on a monthly basis.

Ms. Berlando, Ms. Robertson and Ms. Sassaman departed the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

**3. CALL TO ORDER**

Heidi Bada arrived at 4:08 p.m., Councillor Don Linge arrived at 4:16 p.m. and Vice Chair Contreras arrived at 4:34 p.m. (during the presentation by Community Living BC).

Chair Calder called the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m.

**4. LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Paul Newcombe that the agenda of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of May 11, 2011 be approved as presented.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Heidi Bada, seconded by Councillor Linge that the minutes of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of March 9, 2011 be approved as presented.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

Moved by Paul Newcombe, seconded by Heidi Bada that the minutes of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee meeting of April 13, 2011 be approved as presented.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

- (1) Committee Terms of Reference (TOR)
  - (a) Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Representative Voting Privilege
  - (b) Accessibility Definition for Terms of Reference

Chair Calder noted the requested amendments to the committee terms of reference were approved by Council.

- (2) 2010 Year End Report

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison noted the year end report has been updated with the requested revisions from the April meeting.

Moved by Bob McKie, seconded by Paul Newcombe that the report be adopted as received and forwarded to Council for information.

The motion **CARRIED**.

- (3) Sidewalk Ramp List – Follow-up Verbal Report from Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison

Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison reported the priority list provided by Mr. Argyle and Mr. Szabo has been received and incorporated into the list of sidewalks requiring attention as determined by the Public Works department. Mr. Miller noted that repairs to sidewalks and ramps are dependant on budget funding. Mr. Miller further noted a report will be going to Council about the activities that have taken place on the sidewalk network including new sidewalk and para-ramp construction.

Mr. Miller noted repairs to sidewalks is based on a rating system and completed in a priority sequence with first priority being given to trip hazards. Budget funds are allocated according to the rating system with \$ 10,000 budgeted for accessibility. Restructuring of sidewalk ramps falls within the category of accessibility. It was also noted the restructuring of sidewalk ramps are very expensive and cost approximately \$5000 per ramp.

Committee members requested an updated listing of the sidewalk priorities as provided by Mr. Argyle and Mr. Szabo, with a notation of which items have been completed. Mr. Miller to provide.

- (4) Difficulties Associated with Opening Doors in Municipal Buildings – Follow-up Verbal Report from Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison

Jeff Miller, Staff Liaison reported public works staff assessed all motor assisted doors in municipal buildings and filed a report. Mr. Miller will provide further details on the report at the next meeting.

8. **WORK PLAN ITEMS**

- (1) Measuring-up Gold Star Program
  - (a) Questionnaire

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison reported the sub-committee has updated the questionnaire. The questionnaire will be mailed out to all businesses in Esquimalt. Eligible businesses will be recognized at Access Awareness Days.

(2) Access Awareness Day

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison reported the sub-committee met last week and Access Awareness Day will take place on June 4<sup>th</sup> in the Esquimalt Plaza. A table with the Access Awareness banner will be set up to display information; Mayor Desjardins will be in attendance to officially proclaim the day and make Gold Star Award presentations. Scouts or Lions Club will be in attendance to serve hotdogs.

Moved by Paul Newcombe, seconded by Vice Chair Contreras that the committee request Council to proclaim June 4<sup>th</sup> as Access Awareness Day.  
The motion **CARRIED**.

It was noted the environmental sensitivities survey will be available on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Planning for Access Awareness Day in 2012 (centennial year) will be discussed at the September meeting.

(3) Buccaneer Days

Committee members discussed the location of the committee information table at Buccaneer Days. Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison noted the municipal information technology department does not have equipment the committee can utilize and there will be a cost to provide internet access to the preferred table location.

Bob McKie will confirm the committees information table location in the curling rink and report back to the committee.

It was noted the environmental sensitivities survey will be made available on the municipal website. It was requested information from SAFERhomes be made available for the information table.

Chair Calder requested volunteers to assist with hosting the table on Saturday and Sunday. Please contact Chair Calder with your availability.

(4) Accessible Bylaws

Deferred to June meeting.

(5) Environmental Sensitivities

(a) Draft Awareness of Environmental Sensitivities Survey

Chair Calder requested committee members review the survey for any required revisions and provide them to the Chair and Andy Katschor by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

(6) Centennial Celebrations Participation Preparation

Chair Calder requested committee members to brainstorm ideas and prepare for discussion at the June meeting.

9. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Letter from Attila Szabo, dated March 14, 2011, Re: Retrofitting Infrastructure for Easier Access for All Users

Andy Katschor, Staff Liaison reported the letter from Mr. Szabo was circulated to recreation staff and a report will be drafted and provide to this committee. Mr. Katschor expressed his appreciation for being provided with the information stated in the letter.

- (2) Letter from the CNIB, dated April 1, 2011, Re: Shades of Fun: How to Celebrate Vision Health Month in Esquimalt

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Bob McKie that the communications items be received.

The motion **CARRIED**.

10. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Access Awareness Advisory Committee will take place on Wednesday, June 8, 2011.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

---

Eleanor Calder, Chair

This 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011